This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 2 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor centering in the labor bill, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Deadly poisons are often concealed under sweet honey.—Ovid.

WHOLE NO. 1472 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1939. FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 29, NO. 26

FACING the FACTS

With PHILIP FEARL

We understand that the followers of Father Divine, the kingpin evangelist of Harlem, customarily greet each other with the expression:—"Peace! Peace! It's wonderful."

That goes for us too. Yes, indeed, peace is wonderful—that is, if only we know how to get it.

Just to keep the record straight, let us explain that we're not talking about peace in Europe, or peace in Asia or peace in any other troubled sector of the globe, but peace in organized labor, in good old U. S. A.

There seems to be a disposition among some people to disregard the cause of the war, the responsibility for its continuance, or any other relative factor except—that it be ended here and now!"

Unfortunately it is impossible to answer that question without exploring at least briefly the causes of the conflict and the reasons why it has not yet been adjusted. Here goes!

The war began in November, 1935, when a small group of labor officials, headed by John L. Lewis, formed the Committee for Industrial Organization with the avowed object of putting into effect policies which had been rejected by a two-thirds vote at the American Federation of Labor Convention in Atlantic City only a month before.

Unprovoked Aggression

Despite repeated warnings, Mr. Lewis and his associates promptly started a campaign of unprovoked aggression against American Federation of Labor unions which had not joined their rebellion, very much in the manner of Hitler's and Mussolini's tactics. They raided A. F. of L. unions, violated jurisdictional borders, and committed a multitude of additional acts of aggression. In the face of this situation the American Federation of Labor saw the futility of continuing a policy of appeasement and expelled the rebel unions from its ranks. War then spread to all fronts.

First peace overtures came in October, 1937, when the C.I.O. discovered it was licked. Peace conferences began the following month. They progressed to the point where an agreement was reached satisfactory to the negotiating committees representing both sides. It was a fair, honorable and just settlement. It looked as though unity had finally been restored to organized labor. But at the last moment John L. Lewis personally stepped in and vetoed the agreement made by his committee.

That meant war and more vicious war. It continued uninterrupted for more than a year. The flimsy C.I.O. structure started cracking under pressure. The International Ladies Garment Workers Union quit the C.I.O. in disgust. The United Textile Workers Union deserted Lewis and returned to the American Federation of Labor. The United Automobile Workers of America followed suit.

Then, at the instance of President Roosevelt new peace conferences were instituted this Spring. They continued for sometime without much definite progress. In fact each time it appeared that some progress had been achieved, John L. Lewis immediately nullified the gain.

Where Are We Now?

The last conference was held on April 4th. The next day Mr. Lewis telephoned to Vice-President Matthew Woll and said that negotiations would have to be postponed because he expected to be tied up with coal strike meetings and hearings on Wagner Act amendments. Mr. Lewis promised to notify Mr. Woll when the C.I.O. Committee would be ready to meet again with the A. F. of L.

We are still waiting for word from Mr. Lewis. We wonder if it will ever come. In May, Sidney Hillman, the C.I.O. brain-truster, made a speech in Philadelphia. Said Sid:

"I predict we will have peace within a year."

Madame Perkins, current Washington museum known as the Department of Labor, telegraphed Sid:

"I congratulate you on your statesmanlike utterances."

A month later John L. Lewis, brain-buster of the C.I.O., announced at a press conference:

"Peace is impossible."

Brothers and Sisters of the Labor Movement, that's where we are hung at the moment. We fervently agree that peace is wonderful, but how can we obtain it when one party to impose peace declares that peace is impossible? In the present circumstances all we can do is to wait and wonder whether Mr. Lewis means that peace is impossible for Labor or whether it is merely impossible for him personally and for his misguided group.

(Released by the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service)

U. S. Court Voids NLRB Order Barring A. F. of L. Union From Run-Off Election

Unanimous Opinion Declares That Board's Rule Favoring C. I. O. Union and Keeping the A. F. of L. Affiliate Off the Ballot in the Election of the Consumers Power Company Employes Was Illegal.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Sixth Judicial District in a decision handed down here nullified as illegal an election ordered by the National Labor Relations Board to determine the bargaining agent for 3,000 employes of the Consumers' Power Company of Jackson, Mich

The decision sustained the petition filed by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, challenging the legality of the board's order barring the A. F. of L. affiliate from the ballot in a run-off election of the Consumers Power Company employes.

In the election held last January by the Labor Board among the Consumers Power Company employes to select a bargaining agent a C. I. O. union received 1,160 votes and the Electrical Workers Brotherhood 1,072 votes, with 506 workers not voting for either union.

The C. I. O. union asked for a run-off election. The Labor Board granted the request, but barred the Electrical Workers Brotherhood from the ballot, giving the employes only a choice of voting for the C. I. O. union or no union.

The Electrical Workers Brotherhood had demanded a run-off election between the two unions, but the Board refused claimed that the Labor Board's plan could result only in a victory for the C. I. O. A vote against the board; ism, the latter result being held unlikely.

The Electrical Workers Brotherhood petitioned the Circuit Court of Appeals for an order against the election planned by the Labor Board on the ground that its method of conducting the election was illegal. The Appeals Court issued a temporary stay just before the election was to be held in April.

"We think the order was illegal and that the proposed election was unfair in effect," declared Judge Xenophon Hicks in the unanimous decision setting aside the Labor Board's order for an election.

Judge Charles C. Simons and Florence E. Allen concurred in the opinion.

"The employes was not given full freedom of choice," the court said. "If he voted, he could either ratify or reject the nominee of the board; but if he rejected it he was through. He had no alternative. He could take the representative offered him or none at all—a parallel of Hobson's choice."

NAZI RECEPTION CAMPS FOR DEPORTED WORKERS

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The International Federation of Trade Unions, in a statement issued from its headquarters in Paris, France, declares that in the District of Oppeln, in Nazi Germany, "a great reception camp has been established, where hundreds of workers, including many Sudeten Germans and Austrians, arrive daily," adding:

"They all seem to be very depressed. Each has had to sign a contract by which he undertakes to perform twelve hours work a day at a weekly wage of 25 marks. The camp is rigidly and guarded by soldiers.

"From the camp, groups of men are sent to the different sections of the fortifications, and workers are often heard to remark that, once the war has broken out, there will be changes."

TORONTO TAXI DRIVERS WIN HIGHER WAGE PACT

Toronto, Can. (AFLWNS).—A closed shop agreement carrying higher wages has been finalized between Toronto taxi drivers union, Local No. 648 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and the larger taxicab firms here.

The new agreement, which provides for an increase of $1.50 in the minimum weekly wage and runs for 12 months, was secured following negotiations between union officials and owners of the taxi firms.

Last year a strike and the intervention of the Ontario Labor Department were necessary to secure pay increases.

DICTATORS' RULE FLAYED BY GREEN

A. F. of L. President Says Totalitarian Autocrats' First Blow at Democracy is Destruction of Free Trade Unions; Defends Right to Strike as Fundamental to Liberty.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

A vigorous defense of the form of government of the United States and the democratic institutions developed under it, and an equally vigorous denunciation of the dictatorial form of government prevailing in Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy and the Communist Soviet Union, featured the address by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, before the recent International Kiwanis Convention in Boston, Massachusetts.

Mr. Green pointed out that the destruction of the free trade union movement was usually the first assault on democratic institutions by European dictators, coupled with the destruction of the right of the workers to strike as a measure to persuade employers to grant better work conditions.

"This great economic movement, the American trade union movement which I have the honor to represent, is essentially democratic and irresistably committed to the preservation of our democratic form of government and our free democratic institutions," Mr. Green said.

"This fact is easily understood because working people accept as a priceless heritage the principles of freedom, freedom of the press, freedom of speech, freedom of assemblage and freedom in the exercise of the right to worship in accordance with the dictates of conscience."

Totalitarian Dictators Destroy Trade Unions

"Dictators in totalitarian countries recognize the devotion of trade unions to the principles of democracy. That explains why quickly transformed into action. The workers' organizations are the first to be wiped out by dictatorial decree.

"This happened in Germany, Italy and Russia. The funds and properties of these trade unions were seized

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CALIFORNIA LABOR CONDEMNS KIDWELL

Holds Gov. Olson's Director of Industrial Relations Was Unfaithful to A. F. of L. in Testimony Before Senate Committee Regarding Westwood Sawmill Workers Union Dispute.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

San Diego, Calif.—The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Executive Council of the California State Federation of Labor, in regular session at San Diego:

WHEREAS, George G. Kidwell, a member of Bakery Wagon Drivers Union No. 484 of San Francisco, an affiliate of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and the California State Federation of Labor, and

WHEREAS, Said officer of the Federation of Labor, purports to be a loyal member of said American Federation of Labor; and

WHEREAS, Said George G. Kidwell has taken an obligation to support the policies, principles and laws of the American Federation of Labor; and

WHEREAS, It is a matter of common knowledge that said George G. Kidwell has in the recent past associated with and acted in concert with avowed enemies of the American Federation of Labor, and has assumed an attitude of open hostility toward the principles of the American Federation of Labor and the California State Federation of Labor; and

Made "Untrue and Misleading Statements"

WHEREAS, As such member of the American Federation of Labor, but pretending to act in the capacity of an officer of the State of California he appeared before the United States Senate Committee on Education and Labor in Washington, D. C. on May 9, 1939, and presented to said committee a written statement admittedly prepared by others, and cojocidentally gave testimony calculated to bring discredit and disgrace upon the American Federation of Labor and the California State Federation of Labor and the officers thereof through untrue and misleading statements and testimony; and

WHEREAS, Certain of his allegations falsely charged that Lumber & Sawmill Workers Union No. 2936, of Westwood, Lassen County, California, originally organized under auspices of the California State Federation of Labor, had and continues to be a "company" union, and that certain persons in the employ of Edward D. Vandeleur as executive secretary-treasurer of the California State Federation of Labor, provoked certain

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Watt Attacks Hitler For Questioning President Roosevelt's Peace Efforts

American Workers' Delegate to International Labor Conference Declares That Relief Workers in the United States Live Better Than the Millions Who Toil Under Slave Conditions Imposed by the Nazi Dictatorship.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Equal promptness of President Roosevelt's plea to Chancellor Adolf Hitler of Nazi Germany to participate in efforts to maintain peace among the nations and an equally strong denunciation of Hitler for his attempt to create the impression that slavery was the lot of many citizens of the United States characterized the address of Robert J. Watt, American workers' delegate to the International Labor Conference at Geneva, Switzerland, in his discussion of the annual report of John A. Winant, director of the I. L. O.

Mr. Watt emphatically declared that living conditions of even the poorest paid workers in the United States were more than those of the oppressed workers under the Hitler regime and urged that the nations applying the principles of democracy should unite to protect themselves from the cheap labor goods produced under the compulsory work system that prevails in Nazi countries.

Mr. Watt's address follows, in part:

"As one who has long admired the sincere devotion of Mr. Winant to the orderly and constant progress in solving economic problems for the welfare of all the people of the community, whether it be a State, a nation, or the whole family of nations, I welcome the opportunity to respond to his first report as director of the International Labor Office.

Praises Winant

"The director's personal experience in our country is fortified by a capacity for seeking real understanding of the needs and hopes of the common man, whether factory worker, clerk or farmer.

"We of the American labor movement have demonstrated our appreciation of his character and achievements. My associates in the United States wish to emphasize to delegates of other nations that Mr. Winant's services as director have already made the American people look upon the International Labor Organization, not as a distant, foreign agency, but as a magnificent cooperative effort among the governments, employers and workers of the free nations of the world.

Totalitarianism Condemned

"At a time such as this, we participate in the deliberations of this body conscious of the limitations imposed by the acute emergency which confronts the peoples of the world. It is to issues such as those which we must discuss at a time when the most elementary human rights are either being trodden into the dust or are in danger of extinction by the brutal forces of oppression.

"As you know, the American people are opposed to involvement in a world war, but the American people are also opposed to the enslavement of a people or a race or a creed.

"If war is to be waged on the question whether mankind is to be free or enslaved, the American people may prove to have a vital interest in that struggle.

"The working people of the United States do not believe that the desperation with which we must face the facts of the international situation is any excuse for abandoning the effort to find the real solution which alone can heal the ills which have caused the re-appearance from the dark ages of the brutal system of totalitarianism.

Assails Hitler's Attack on Roosevelt and American

"President Roosevelt's plea to the present head of the German Government and many other governments manuevre to avert war. It was an attempt to provide an orderly vehicle for the orderly solution of the economic ills which have caused certain nations to resort to the old-fashioned palliatives of the 'medicine man.' War will not solve those ills.

"The best defense of liberty and democracy is the living example of representative government which can and must demonstrate that it is capable of solving economic and social

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Union Label Catalogue-Directory For 1939 Ready For Distribution

Contains Insignia of All A. F. of L. National and International Unions That Designate Their Products and Services by Union Label, Shop Card or Service Button.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The 1939 Union Label Catalogue-Directory, published by the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, is now off the press. It is the second edition of this Label Trades buyers' guide, issued for the purpose of listing manufacturers who have collective bargaining agreements with American Federation of Labor Unions.

The Union Label Catalogue-Directory is issued also with the view of serving all members of labor unions, union label leagues, women's auxiliaries, their families and friends in order that they may inform local merchants and business firms which products bear the union label and the services which are union.

The Catalogue-Directory contains the insignia of national and international unions affiliated with the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor that designate their products and services by a union label, shop card, or service button. The Union Label Catalogue-Directory costs 25 cents per single copy and in lots of 100 or more 20 cents each.

In announcing the publication of the 1939 Union Label Catalogue-Directory, C. M. Ombler, secretary-treasurer of the Union Label Trades Department, said:

"The demand for the right to display the union label on products is growing by leaps and bounds. We find it necessary, from time to time, to issue supplemental lists of unionized industries. The splendid results we are obtaining is chiefly due to the loyal and enthusiastic support of the millions of union label buyers and boosters throughout America."

Shorter Hours Question Postponed By International Labor Conference

Geneva Delegates Declare That Prevailing Political Insecurity Necessitates Delay in Ameliorating the Long Daily and Weekly Work Periods Imposed Upon the Toilers.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The twenty-fifth session of the International Labor Conference at its meeting just concluded at Geneva, Switzerland, adopted by 90 votes to 2 a draft resolution postponing the question of the reduction of hours of work in industry, commerce and offices.

The resolution, sponsored by the delegates of the Governments of the United States, France, Belgium, Denmark and Norway, recognized that many governments would find it difficult to assume an international obligation in this respect at a time when economic activity and the development and enforcement of social legislation are gravely affected by the prevailing political insecurity, and it invited the Governing Body of the International Labor Organization to place the question on the agenda of a later session of the Conference "as soon as such action is warranted by an improvement in the international situation."

Justin Godart, French Government representative, Carter Goodrich, United States Government representative, and representatives of both employers and workers spoke on behalf of the resolution. The only voice raised against it was that of Frank Langstone, representative of the Government of New Zealand, who argued that the adoption of a recommendation would have been preferable to postponement.

Goodrich Explains American Position

Carter Goodrich of the United States reminded the Conference that since his government became a member of the organization it had supported every convention for the reduction of working hours that had been proposed.

"The United States Government," he declared, "is still in favor of international action for the reduction of working hours. Its delegates came to this conference authorized to cast their votes in favor of conventions for shorter hours in coal mines and in road transport."

Nevertheless, he told that it would be unrealistic to debate the provisions of a convention at a moment when the international situation made its immediate application impossible, and

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A. F. OF L. CHARGES LEWIS WITH WRECKING PEACE TALKS

Says C. I. O. Dictator's Edict Terminating Peace Negotiations Is a Rebuff to President Roosevelt; Holds That Democracy, Not Dictatorship, Must Rule the American Labor Movement.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—An editorial in the August issue of the American Federationist, the official monthly organ of the American Federation of Labor, edited by William Green, president of the Federation, charges that John L. Lewis in his recent public statements has made it evident that the C. I. O. will take no further part in peace conferences and that the position brands the C. I. O. dictator as unwilling to bargain collectively upon matters affecting him.

The result of this attitude, the editorial indicates, will be destructive to labor peace and have a harmful effect on labor legislation and progressive undertakings.

The editorial accuses Lewis of ingratitude to President Roosevelt in wrecking the peace conferences which the President inaugurated. This ingratitude was especially repulsive, the editorial said, in view of the fact that White House influence was a decisive factor in winning the soft coal dispute for the C. I. O. autocrat.

The editorial in the Federationist follows:

"As the months have passed the real issue that has split the labor movement of this country has become increasingly obvious to all. It is between a labor movement controlled by the constitutional processes of democracy and a movement created and controlled by an individual—between the ways of a democracy and the ways of a dictator.

Origin of Secession Movement

"The secession movement had its origin in defiance of the constitutional authorities of the existing organization in order to put into effect policies formed by a minority in the American Federation of Labor.

"The pages of history show that causes succeed with multitudes and win adherents on their merits. But this rebel group was not willing to win on its merits but decided to tear down the home that had sheltered it and on its ruins erect a 'bigger and better' structure.

"But human institutions are not like material structures—they grow together and gain tensile strength from joint idealism, collective endeavor, and the common will that comes from living and working together.

A. F. of L. Methods Outlined

"The American Federation of Labor is not perfect for it consists of human beings, but it has within it the capacity for development. Every labor movement has its periods of rapid and slow progress and an essential of its progress is unity within the ranks of labor.

"There were those within the American Federation of Labor who said:

"Let's build on what we have, adding to what we have instead of scrapping years of experience. And so we have done, finding ways to conserve the crafts so essential to a machine era of production, and to organize the workers of machine production and to coordinate the interests of both groups for collective bargaining.

C. I. O. Dictator Scrapped Peace Agreement

"The American Federation of Labor is not all-wise or perfect, but it has made sincere efforts to bridge the chasm between the American Federation of Labor and the secession group. An agreement was worked out satisfactory to the representatives of that group, only to be arbitrarily scrapped by the dictator of the group.

"More recently at the request of the President of the United States peace conferences were instituted. They were suspended because of the coal conferences in progress.

"When the coal companies reached an impasse, the President of the United States intervened effectively to the end that the miners gained a complete victory.

Scorned President Roosevelt

"When the president of the United Mine Workers, who is also dictator of the rebel movement, instead of manifesting his appreciation of the President's aid which turned defeat into victory, declared that there would be no further participation in peace conferences.

"Despite his deep obligation for help, despite the fact that the President's program relies upon Labor support, despite the expressed labor legislation passed in many States last year, despite the determination of the open State labor departments and proposals to take functions from the U. S. Department of Labor, the dictator declared his unwillingness to bargain collectively upon matters affecting him and thereby wrecked a host of many progressive undertakings and laws.

"No lasting labor movement can be built upon dictatorial policies and principles. The welfare of groups and individuals must not be imperilled by the arbitrary decisions or the personal interests of a dictator.

"The American labor movement will steadily move forward democratic principles and procedures and will not tolerate dictatorship within its own domain."

Labor Board Manifests Partiality For the C. I. O., Fenton Declares

American Federation of Labor Director of Organization Tells House Labor Committee Labor Relations Act Must Be Amended to Prevent the Continuance of Rulings Alien to the Letter and Spirit of the Act and Hostile to the Federation.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Speaking from personal experience as the representative of American Federation of Labor unions in cases before the National Labor Relations Board, Frank Fenton, director of Organization, told the House of Representatives Committee on Labor that the Board in administering the National Labor Relations Act has followed a consistent policy of favoritism for the C. I. O. and enmity for the American Federation of Labor.

Testifying at length in favor of the bill introduced by Representative Barden of North Carolina containing the amendments to the National Labor Relations Act proposed by the American Federation of Labor to clarify the Act and thereby curb the powers of the body which now exercises unfair impartiality will be guaranteed, Mr. Fenton presented indisputable evidence regarding the Labor Board's administration, of open hostility toward the American Federation of Labor, and its equally open bias for the C. I. O.

In opening his argument for the Barden Bill, Mr. Fenton said, in part:

"A few weeks ago I presented to the Senate Committee which is hearing statements on the same subject matter as you are here today, a brief containing many exhibits setting forth the position of the American Federation of Labor on this very important matter, a considerable list of cases which up to now are uncontradicted and shows definite prejudice against the A. F. of L. I am not going to present this same material to your committee here today, but if any member desires a copy of the same I will be glad to furnish it.

"I can't use language strong enough to indicate that it is not the purpose of the American Federation of Labor to weaken this law so that anti-union employers can renew their denial to the workers of their right to organize as they have in the past before this law was enacted.

"On the contrary, there is no organization of workers in America more qualified than the American Federation of Labor to understand the abuses that did exist and now prevail and the corrections that must be made if this law is to function in the interest of men and women who toil for wages.

"My experience in handling cases before the National Labor Relations Board dates back to the original Board and its successor, and I have been in constant touch with every Board member since, as well as with many regional directors and other personnel in the different Board's Hostility Toward A. F. of L. Began in 1936

"So, consequently, I recognize that the spirit in the Labor Movement that the Board has had a much more difficult task than ever in handling their cases.

"Many of its decisions, I have no doubt, have been predicated upon information it received from prejudiced and biased directors and examiners. I am convinced that had the Board listened to the complaints of the American Federation of Labor unions and made corrections that its integrity would not be questioned as it is today.

"Since the advent of the C. I. O., however, the evidence is voluminous where this Board has shown that it has been partial and biased to the rival and dual organization.

"The complaints about the prejudiced personnel started in 1936 and was the subject of discussion in most of the State Federations of Labor

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EDITORIALS

The State and the Living Standards of the Masses

In the United States, as in other countries, the inability of millions of people in the lower income groups to purchase decent living standards with their earnings has led to a large degree of intervention by the Government in the interest of more adequate wages decreed by statute law.

This irrepressible development is mentioned by J. G. Winant, Director of the International Labor Office, in his report for 1939.

"Of recent years," he said, "the State has been called upon to an everincreasing extent to assume responsibility for the basic well-being of the people.

"The increasing productivity of industry has made possible a great advance in material well-being. But if this advance is to be fully realized, a corresponding development in social organization is essential.

"The maintenance and improvement of the standard of life is a problem which the citizen and the State have henceforward to work out in partnership."

In the United States the Federal Government has taken practical steps in the partnership with its citizens, mentioned by Mr. Winant, toward improving the living standards of the masses in the enactment of the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The National Labor Relations Act—recognizing "that inequality of bargaining power between employees who do not possess full freedom of association or actual liberty of contract, and employers who are organized in the corporate or other forms of ownership association," the result of which inequality is depressed wage rates and working conditions—by reason of wage earners—establishes by statute the policy of protecting the right of the workers to organize in unions of their own choosing and of encouraging the practice and procedure of collective bargaining.

The Fair Labor Standards Act establishes by Federal statute minimum wage rates below which organized labor cannot force wages and maximum hours above which employers cannot work their employes.

By means of these two measures the wages, work conditions, and consequently the living standards, of large numbers of the masses of the American people have been raised and will continue to be raised.

Ontario Physicians Favor Compulsory Health Insurance

The Ontario, Canada, Medical Association has endorsed the report of a special committee advocating compulsory health insurance on a contributory scale.

That the action of the Medical Association was not made hastily is revealed by the fact that the special committee has been studying the question for seven years.

In presenting its report to the association the committee defined compulsory health insurance as provision by legislation of "an adequate medical service for those persons who cannot be expected to provide it for themselves."

The committee found "there is a very evident need for the provision of a more adequate medical service for the low wage income groups of the population and this need is more acute than it is generally realized, as shown in the hospitalized patients.

"Removal of the economic barrier between doctor and patient should encourage earlier consultation and so permit many diseases to be detected in the incipient stages with consequent benefit to the patient.

"Voluntary plans for health insurance have been encouraged for those persons immediately above the income level of those compulsory insured.

"We believe that, granting the need for a more adequate distribution of medical services among the low income groups, this need can best be met by contributory health insurance on a compulsory basis."

In commenting on the action of the Medical Association the Canadian Congress Journal said: "This is decidedly a progressive step and brings closer the day when Canada will establish national health insurance, something advocated for many, many years by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada."

Shorter Hours Question Postponed By International Labor Conference

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he added that in recognizing this fact the United States Government was determined to reiterate its conviction that it is part of the permanent responsibility of the International Labor Organization to work for a reduction of hours on an international basis.

"To this," he said, "we pledge our full and continuing support. Under the present exceptional circumstances we favor postponement, but postponement on such terms that the Governing Body is instructed to place the matter before us again as soon as such action is warranted by an improvement in the international situation. It is our faith that the just and peaceful settlement of national differences would eliminate the obstacles that stand in the way of bringing the 40-hour week to the wageearners of the world."

Supported by Watt

Robert J. Watt, American Workers' delegate, also supported the resolution, stating that the workers "favor postponing consideration of the international reduction of hours of work at the present time not because we fear defeat by the employers and governments assembled here, but because we share with them the responsibility of safeguarding peace."

He concluded with the statement that "when we sacrifice achieving the 40-hour week today we do so with our eyes open and with the sure knowledge that we shall achieve the 40 hour week or even the 30 hour working week when the need for armaments has been removed."

Governments Oppose Shorter Hours

Mr. Godart pointed out that the replies to a questionnaire sent out by the International Labor Office showed that a great majority of the governments were definitely opposed to any reduction in the hours of labor at this time.

"We realize," he said, "that the problem of the reduction of hours of work to less than forty-eight in the world retains its full importance, and that international examination of that question will be resumed as soon as circumstances permit a more favorable result to be expected."

Mr. Godart also explained that in supporting the resolution the French Government still remained in favor of the flexible system which although it had been compelled by circumstances to render its own 40-hour week Act inoperative, it had never thought of abandoning it in the Act itself, it was prepared to put an end to the scope of the exceptions in question as soon as circumstances became normal.

U. S. Employment Service Places Ban on Furnishing Strikebreakers

Orders All State Units To Stop Providing Workers For Employers Involved in Strikes and Lockouts.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—William H. Stead, Acting Director of the United States Employment Service, issued an order prohibiting all affiliated State employment services from providing workers for employers involved in strikes and lockouts.

It was stated that the order was entered after labor unions had complained that in some cases the Employment Service had acted as strikebreaker.

The new regulation reads as follows:

"Unless otherwise provided by State law, the State Service shall require that each employment office under its supervision refrain from referring any person to any position at any place of employment where there exists a labor dispute.

"For the purpose of this rule, the term 'labor dispute' shall include any controversy concerning terms or conditions of employment or concerning the association or representation of persons in negotiating, fixing, maintaining, changing, or seeking to arrange terms or conditions of employment, regardless of whether or not the disputants stand in the proximate relation of employer and employe.

"In carrying out this rule, the State director shall arrange with the State agency which receives notice of labor disputes for prompt notification of any labor disputes coming to the attention of such agency. Such notification shall be in writing and shall give the pertinent details of the dispute.

"In addition, the State director shall arrange with the various union organizations for prompt notification of any labor disputes in which such organizations might be involved, which notification shall likewise be in writing and shall set forth the details of the dispute.

"The State director shall notify managers of all local offices to arrange with local labor organizations to cooperate substantially under disputes, which notification shall be in writing and shall set forth the details of the dispute.

"In addition to the notice of labor disputes received from any state agencies or from labor organizations as set forth above, the State director or the managers of local offices, upon the receipt of information from any source as to the existence of any labor dispute, shall immediately verify the existence of such labor dispute by communication with the parties involved.

"When such notice has been received in accordance with the procedure set forth above that a labor dispute exists at a certain place of employment, no person shall be referred to operation at such place of employment until such time as the state director has received notice from both of the disputants that the labor dispute has been settled and has sent this notice to the local office.

"The State director shall arrange for the same agencies and organizations which give notice at the beginning of the labor dispute to likewise give notice of settlement of such labor dispute. Each employment office shall keep a careful record of existing labor disputes at the area served by such office in which shall be recorded pertinent information with regard to such dispute."

DICTATORS' RULE FLAYED BY GREEN

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the headquarters were taken over and the labor unions controlled and put in concentration camps by order of the government.

"Then, independent trade unions were declared to be ill-gal organizations. As a substitute for the free, democratic unions destroyed, wiped out, annihilated by government decree, government-controlled and government-administered and government-protected unions and regimented workers were established. In that development the workers were forced to behold the substitution of tyranny for democracy and the rule of a dictator for democratic government.

"Totalitarian countries are the strikeless nations. There the right to strike has been injected into the veins of workers. In that respect they are no longer free to exercise their economic strength for the redress of wrongs or for the purpose of forcing a demand for higher wages and improved conditions of employment.

"Freedom gone, hopes crushed and ambitions blighted, there is left the unhappy state of workers where autocracy is substituted for democracy in government.

Strikes Express Democracy

"We, in free America, sometimes protest either silently or openly, against the inconvenience great public inconvenience resulting therefrom.

"When faced with such situations it is well to bear in mind that strikes and democracy go hand in hand. It is better that workingmen and women shall be free, free to quit their work or withhold their labor at will, than that they be to abolish strikes and surrender freedom, liberty and democracy in exchange for autocratic control and the totalitarian State.

"We want democracy, but in wanting it we must be willing to accept the freedom of action which goes with it.

"The preservation of the free exercise of the right to strike imposes an obligation upon the workingmen and women to act wisely and to guard against abuses. Every effort possible ought to be made to avoid industrial strife and conflict.

Conferences Should Settle Labor Disputes

"The differences which arise between employers and employes ought to be settled around the conference room in an atmosphere of good-will and mutual understanding whenever possible.

"The interest and convenience of the public should equal other considerations.

"If honesty, integrity and frankness characterized the attitudes of employers and employes toward each other in wage negotiations and in the settlement of disputes, nearly strikes could be avoided. When tolerance and a proper respect for the rights of all concerned prevail and control all human relations in industry, then, upon equity for attendant hardships and losses, will be reduced to a minimum.

"Because the movement for which I speak seeks to achieve this objective we vigorously oppose the enactment and application of repressive legislation and the administration of justice by labor relations boards and government agencies contrary to both their letter and spirit."

BUYING OF UNION-MADE MANIFOLD BOOKS URGED

Oakland, Calif. (AFLWNS).—An appeal to members of organized labor throughout the country to buy the manifold book firm which has signed a 100 per cent union contract with a union label, was issued by the Printing Pressmen's and Assistants' Union of North America, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor.

The appeal was issued by Manifold Book Bindery, Inc., Oakland, an affiliate of the International Printing Pressmen, by Frank Moran, business representative of the pressmen in behalf of the Sunset-McKee Sales Book Company of Oakland, California.

"Every member of organized labor can help this firm, without paying fair with labor, by looking at sales slips they put with purchases from merchants who buy from them and see if they bear the name of Sunset-McKee in the lower left hand corner," Moran said.

"Sales people who use manifold books should ask for the label," he urged by urging their employers, or at least diplomatically suggesting to them, to buy their sales books from this 100 per cent union firm.

"By organizing labor and its friends who believe in the American way, the way of collective bargaining, we now number a powerful force in every branch of the labor movement. Combination of this firm, operating on a national basis, are unfair, and we therefore appeal to all members of organized labor to refuse to deal with someone who plays ball with us.

"By so doing you will help the people of this industry to obtain the improved conditions, and perhaps bring about improved conditions for other members in the industry.

"The firm manufactures all types of manifold sales books, and inquiries will be gladly received by Manifold Book Workers Union No. 896, Pythian Castle, 458 12th Street, Oakland, California," Moran said.

LABOR BOARD YIELDS ON PROCEDURE RULES

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—The National Labor Relations Board announced that it had amended its rules so that the period of notice of hearing in unfair labor practice cases should be not less than ten days instead of five days as at present.

The Board also stated it had decided to write into its formal rules a requirement that trade unions which are parties to a collective bargaining contract alleged to have been violated by violation of the National Labor Relations Act must be made parties to any Board proceeding affecting the contract.

Watt Attacks Hitler For Questioning President Roosevelt's Peace Efforts

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problems more fully and more happily than can any dictatorship.

"There was an apparent effort in the reply of Mr. Hitler to the personal messages of President Roosevelt to create an impression abroad that the President of our Republic spoke for himself rather than for the American people. He endeavored to create the impression of discord, strife, and misery among the American people on economic, social and political subjects.

"As the American Workers' delegate, I believe it is important on this occasion to correct any such impression.

Hits Nazi Enslavement of Workers

"The simple fact is that the most unfortunate relief worker in America eats better food, has warmer clothes, better housed and breathes cleaner air than the millions who toil as did the slaves of ancient Egypt under conditions of brutal domination of which American penal institutions would be ashamed.

"The American people have many shortcomings, but they themselves have the power and the will to diagnose and cope with them. In American life the intrusion of criticism against the President as freely as it desires, to print pleasant and unpleasant facts and opinions, and to criticize as it pleases.

"Working people throughout the world have a common interest of the greatest importance in avoiding war today or tomorrow, and even more urgently in seeking a just and peaceful solution of the economic and social problems which underlie the bitter nationalistic rivalries and international lawlessness now harassing mankind.

"I say deliberately that the American people are united wholeheartedly in support of the efforts of President Roosevelt to find a way to accomplish a peaceful settlement of international rivalries which will strengthen rather than destroy international decency and human liberty."

Federal Unemployment Compensation Tax Reduction Opposed by A. F. of L.

Green Tells Senate Finance Committee Benefits for Jobless Are Below Decent Standards.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Strong opposition to slashing the three per cent pay roll tax levied on employers by the Social Security Act to provide compensation for jobless working men and women was expressed by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a letter sent to Senator Pat Harrison, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, which is considering the amendments to the Act passed by the House of Representatives.

"The American Federation of Labor cannot express too emphatically its opposition to any reduction in the Federal three per cent pay roll unemployment compensation," Mr. Green said.

"When the Social Security Act was passed, the three per cent rate was considered the smallest amount consistent with the establishment of any security against the risks of unemployment. It was recognized that the benefit scale which states could establish if they enacted laws based on 2.7 per cent rates, giving their employers the advantage of the full credit offset, would be less than satisfactory. The experience to date certainly justifies no reduction in those rates.

"Benefit payments in every State have been far from adequate standards. In many jurisdictions in which the benefit scale has been subject to increases, the expected liberalization has not materialized, or has been so meager and inadequate as to put to shame the term 'social security.' Instead, on every side, we see employers' associations trying to hack away the basis of benefits—the tax rate."

CALIF. LABOR WILL HOLD CONVENTION IN OAKLAND

Vandeleur Outlines Legislative Activities of State Federation; Workmen's Compensation Laws Amended; Many Anti-Labor Measures Defeated.

San Francisco, Calif. (AFLWNS).—Formal application for changing the convention city for the 40th annual convention of the California State Federation of Labor from San Jose to Oakland was voted by the executive council of the Federation, at its two-day session in San Diego, it was announced by Edward D. Vandeleur, secretary of the Federation.

The convention will be held in Calkland's Municipal Auditorium beginning Monday, August 28, and continue through most of the week. The Hotel Oakland has been selected as official headquarters. Arrangements were left in charge of Secretary Vandeleur and Vice-President Charles Real as representatives of the executive council.

The convention was changed from San Jose because of housing facilities.

Outstanding success in defeating anti-labor measures before the sessions of the legislature, and a substantial part of a detailed report of legislative activities made by Secretary Vandeleur as legislative representative of the Federation. Passage of various amendments favorable to labor, including the most liberal changes in the Workmen's Compensation Laws since their adoption, also formed part of the report.

Details of the legislative program will be covered in a report to be made to all affiliated unions after compilation of records following adjournment of the legislature and final disposition of various measures, Vandeleur said.

The Council voted to put Redwood Theaters, Inc., operators of a chain of theatres in the northern area, including Modesto, Eureka, Woodland, and other points on the official "We Don't Patronize" list of the Federation.

EXPLANATION OF LABOR'S AIMS URGED FOR SCHOOLS

Milwaukee, Wis. (AFLWNS).—The Milwaukee Federated Trades Council, A. F. of L. affiliate, senses the fact that the youth of the land is going to being saturated with prejudices against organized labor inculcated by motion pictures of "Boy Meets Girl" dramas, and articles in some reactionary newspapers.

To nullify this impression the council proposes that leaders of legitimate unions be given the opportunity at least once a year to expound labor's principles and problems in the schools of the State. A resolution to this effect was adopted by the council and will be presented to the convention of the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor which opens at Wausau on August 16.

PRODUCTION LIMITATION HITS TEXTILE WORKERS

Greenville, S. C. (AFLWNS).—J. E. Sirrine of Greenville, chairman of a committee on voluntary production control in the Southern print-cloth field, announced that operations of more than 95 per cent of the looms on these fabrics had agreed into an agreement to operate their plants not to exceed 75 per cent of their normal capacity during July, August and September.

He explained that the suffering of the mill workers because of short time would be alleviated by the fact that living costs are at a low minimum during the Summer months.

32½ CENT TEXTILE WAGE FAVORED BY MILL OWNERS

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—A number of cotton textile manufacturers are in favor of the 32½ cent minimum wage for the industry recommended in place of the present 25 cent minimum by the Cotton Textile Industry Committee appointed by Administrator Elmer F. Andrews, Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor.

Hyman L. Battle, president of the Rocky Mount Mills, of North Carolina, urged the adoption of the 32½ cent minimum wage at the hearing with Mr. Andrews. He said twelve other North Carolina mills also favored the 32½ cent minimum.

Samuel Powell of Goddard Brothers, Providence, R. I., operating agents of four mills on Rhode Island and one at Seneca, N. C., Paul E. Crocker, treasurer of the Crocker Spinning Co., Russell F. Fisher, president of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers, and Frederick Greenwood, also favored the adoption of the 32½ cent minimum wage for the entire industry.

NLRB ALLOWS EMPLOYERS TO ASK FOR ELECTIONS

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—The National Labor Relations Board informed the House Labor Committee that it has amended its rules to permit employers to petition the board for an election in cases where which of two rival labor organizations should be certified as representing a majority of employes. Heretofore only labor organizations could petition the board.

"Chalk it up as one victory for the A. F. of L.," commented Joseph A. Padway, counsel of the American Federation of Labor, who was testifying in behalf of the Federation before the National Labor Relations Act proposed by the Federation.

He declared, however, that another step should be taken and that the changed rule should be written into the law because some subsequent board might unmake the rule.

48 HOURS FOR TRUCKERS RECOMMENDED AT GENEVA

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Geneva, Switzerland.—The Geneva, Switzerland, state that the committee of the International Labor Conference appointed to draft a convention to regulate work hours in the road transport industry, has agreed on a forty-eight hour weekly limit, with provisions authorizing competent authorities to permit a higher weekly limit for workers doing considerable subsidiary work or whose task is frequently interrupted by periods of mere attendance.

SALMON PURSE SEINERS UNION WINS PAY BOOST

Vancouver, Can. (AFLWNS).—Salmon Purse Seiners Federal Union No. 141, chartered by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, has negotiated an agreement with the British Columbia Salmon Canners providing for increased prices to the fishermen of a cent on "pinks" to two and one-half cents for "sockeye" salmon over the prices paid last year. The new contract also provides for recognition of the union as the bargaining agency and sets up the "check off" system for collection of union dues.

Last year the union was compelled to call a strike to secure the agreement which this year was secured by negotiation.

Labor Board Manifests Partiality For the C. I. O., Fenton Declares

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throughout the country. It became a national issue at the last A. F. of L. Tampa, Fla., convention, then at the Denver, Colo., convention, and most recently at the Houston convention.

"All during this period the American Federation of Labor was patient. They tried by conferences and otherwise to stop the partial and favorable attitude that the Board was showing to the C. I. O. The American Federation of Labor was apprehensive about amending the law heretofore because they feared that in opening the Act to amendment, many anti-union employers would take advantage of this opposition to emasculate the Act.

"President Green placed the position of the American Federation of Labor in words more adequate than I can to indicate the approbation that the American Federation of Labor had to amending this Act during Congress. We have no intention of the proposed amendments now before you.

Green's Statement of Labor Board Cited

"I quote the following from President Green's statement before the Senate Committee on these proposed amendments:

"I am mindful of measures and amendments which have been introduced by others on the subject in this session of Congress. We have carefully examined these amendments. We have given us great concern. In fact, the question we had to answer to ourselves was—shall we favor amendments and thereby invite proposals for legislation which will curtail or abolish the fundamental guarantees embraced within the present Act.

"If the determinations of the Board were based on mere error of construction of the law, we would not have abstained from submission of the amendments and have sought to reason with the Board in an effort to have them correct their errors.

"We have directed our complaints to the attention of the Board, as well as having them made public. We have felt it to be unwise to be introduced both in the Senate and the House of Representatives a measure to revise the entire rules.

"Our complaints have gone unheeded. Instead of a reversal of the board decision, other and more drastic have been made and the Board, having a more drastic effect upon our organization.

"The public and official utterances of certain members of the Board have been more venomous as time went on.

"We could no longer refrain from requesting Congress to grant us relief and to amend the Act so as to have it conform to its original intent and to insure fairness in its administration.'

A. F. of L. Amendments Strengthen Labor Act

"These utterances of President Green strongly indicate that the fundamental guarantees contained in the Act will not be weakened or abolished, and that the American Federation of Labor will fight any attempt by any group which has for its purpose the destruction or abolishment of the Act.

"We believe that the amendments we are seeking instead of weakening the Act, will fortify it against those who would destroy it. We believe the amendments we are offering should have the support of the Board to save itself from its own distortion. There has been evidence presented before your committee wherein the Board has proved the necessity so far as the intent of some of the A. F. of L. amendments are concerned.

Labor Board Seeks to Destroy Craft Unions

"Our opposition is fundamental. The Board has substituted a theoretical yardstick for self-organization instead of drawing from the experience and tradition of the trade-union movement of our country.

"The Board precedent showed an utter disregard of self-organization by favoring an organization where the determination of craft lines was distinct and destroying an organization where the demarcation was traditional.

"It has by law discarded a permanent and enduring form of organization that has grown and proven organization of foreign birth. * * *"

CANADIAN RAIL UNIONS REGISTER BIG VICTORY

Parliament Passes Law Providing Compensation for Loss of Jobs Through Railroad Mergers and Similar Developments.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The Railway Transportation Brotherhoods and the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada are jubilant over developments after six years of effort, in securing the enactment of legislation by the Canadian Parliament to provide for the payment of compensation by railway companies to railway employes who are deprived of employment or adversely affected by railway consolidations or similar developments designed to effect lower operating costs.

The measure is somewhat similar to the agreement reached in an agreement known as the "Washington Job Agreement" which was negotiated a few years ago between representatives of the standard railroad labor organizations in the United States and railway companies.

The provisions of the Canadian Act are clearly outlined by Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Transport, when the bill was introduced in Parliament. He said, in part:

"The purpose of this bill is to amend the Canadian National-Canadian Pacific Act, 1933, to provide compensation for employes of the railways who lose their positions or are otherwise severed from the service.

"In a cooperative measure the railway companies absorb its weaker lines, but sometimes this is not possible and there is a surplus of men. A man with fifteen years service would have substantial rights to a service pension which might be extinguished as a result of a cooperative measure between the railways."

ALUMINUM WORKERS FORM NEW UNION IN KENOGAMI

Kenogami, Quebec, Can. (AFLWNS).—A new union of aluminum workers has been established here by Regional President W. O. Brown of the Quebec Provincial Federation of Labor.

The union, which is known as Aluminum Workers of Arvida Federal Union No. 23022, is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor International Council of Aluminum Workers Unions.

CALIFORNIA LABOR CONDEMNS KIDWELL

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disturbances at Westwood during the period from February 6 to April 3, 1939, as indicated by the official transcript of evidence heard before the United States Senate Committee on Education and Labor; and

Added "Avowed Enemies" of the A. F. of L.

WHEREAS, Said George G. Kidwell did publicly and wrongfully accuse the officials of the California State Federation of Labor of "Communistic" activities at the so-called strike at Westwood during the afore-mentioned period for the purpose of bringing discredit upon the American Federation of Labor; and

WHEREAS, By such action he gave aid and comfort to the avowed enemies of the American Federation of Labor, and caused to be presented to the country public a very misleading story of the actual facts concerning the Westwood strike, resulting in the American Federation of Labor, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America, of which Lumber & Sawmill Workers Union No. 2559 is a member, and union itself, and the California State Federation of Labor; now therefore be it

Unfaithful to His Obligation as A. F. of L. Member

RESOLVED, That the Executive Council of the California State Federation of Labor, in regular session assembled in San Diego this 17th day of June, 1939, does hereby severely condemn said George G. Kidwell for his unfaithfulness to his obligation as a member of the American Federation of Labor; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the action of this Executive Council be called to the attention of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America; the American Federation of Labor; the San Diego District Joint Council of Teamsters No. 7, with which Bakery Wagon Drivers Union No. 484 is affiliated, and of which said George G. Kidwell is a member, with the request that he be admonished for his activities against the interests of the American Federation of Labor; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be spread on the minutes of the Executive Council as submitted to the 40th convention of the California State Federation of Labor, and given to the daily and labor press.

GENEVA LABOR PARLEY SHELVES MINERS HOURS

Geneva, Switzerland (AFLWNS).—Proposals to reduce the hours of work in coal mines were temporarily shelved by the International Labor Conference in session here. The question was referred back to the Governing Body of the International Labor Organization with the suggestion that it be placed on the agenda of a future conference as soon as the international situation warrants such action.

PAID VACATIONS FOR PORT ARTHUR STREET CAR MEN

Port Arthur, Can. (AFLWNS).—Officials of Division 986 of the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes of America, A. F. of L. affiliate, announced that the new agreement recently finalized with the Port Arthur Public Utilities Commission contains a provision granting an annual vacation with pay to the Commission's employes. The working conditions and wage rates are the same as in the old contract.